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BROOKLYN HIGH SCHOOL OF AUTOMOTIVE TRADES
50 BEDFORD AVENUE
BROOKLYN 22, NEW YORK

VOL. 12, No. 5

March-April, 1962

THE PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

In my previous column I pointed out the worth of the education you are getting. You should be proud of your school. I think you are. The two trophy cases near the auditorium have been re-arranged and now show to better advantage the many trophies our school has won. If you have never looked them over before, do so now. The auditorium floor has just been resurfaced with new linoleum. Everybody must have noticed the new exhaust system being installed in the shops. Still more improvements are in the works for all parts of the school, especially the cafeteria.

I expect all of you to show this pride actively. See to it that you do not in any way do anything that will harm the school—either the building or its reputation. All of us would like to think that we leave the school a better one than the one we found. Working together, we can achieve this goal.

Louis Auerbach

Louis Auerbach
Principal

JUNIOR RED CROSS DRIVE OVER THE TOP

During the week of March 12-16, Brooklyn Automotive conducted a drive for funds for the American Junior Red Cross. Our campaign goal was an average of ten cents per pupil. It is with pride that we report that our school more than doubled that amount.

Congratulations and thanks to all who helped to make our fine showing possible.

Mr. Loring Schwartz was the co-ordinator and Junior Red Cross Sponsor.

—James Carman, 6V19

Several boys from Automotive attended the 16th annual World Youth Forum, sponsored by the New York Herald Tribune and held in the grand ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, Friday afternoon, March 23. Most of the New York City high schools were well-represented; however, the high school students in the limelight were the thirty-six foreign delegates representing thirty-six different countries.

These students were really brilliant. They had been carefully selected by the Ministries of Education of their countries, and had just spent three months as guests in the homes of American high school students throughout the United States. They had shared household duties, attended classes, and taken part in everyday school and community activities.

The theme of the Forum was "The World We Want." All of the foreign students were fluent in English, which was a prerequisite for consideration for selection. And it was indeed an exhilarating experience for the American students to be able to share ideas and to exchange views with these foreign students, who would shortly be returning to their respective countries to report on their activities and their experiences in the United States.

In addition to your reporter, boys representing Brooklyn Automotive were: Harold Williams, 8V23; Donald Maciejewski, 8V25; George Moeckel, Carmen Gaglio, Joseph Diaz, all of 8V27.

—Ralph Chevres, 8V27

(Since it would have required too much space to list the foreign students and countries represented, a complete list, along with photos, will be placed on the main bulletin board on the first floor.—ED.)



AUTOMOTIVE SPEAKS OUT AT SPEECH ASSEMBLY

G.O. AND PRESS COUNCIL CONVENTION

"These are the times which try men's souls." And so began Richard Jones. While he read this selection, "American Crisis," I could almost visualize America's spirit of revolution. I believe the historic impact of this speech awarded Richard Jones of 8V25 the honor of representing our school at the Borough Vocational Speech Contest on May 9.

All of the contestants did an outstanding job. Leonard Jacob of 8V27 gave an inspirational interpretation of the beautiful 23rd Psalm. Donald Maciejewski of 8V25 had some of the zest that John Glenn exhibited when he gave the "Astronaut Address." A touch of romance was given by James Freeman of 8V26 when he recited "Lochinvar." Peter Scokaro of 6V17 showed us a sad experience of putting money above all else, as he recited "When I Was One-And-Twenty." American unity in all its glory was described by Barry Farr of 8V26 in "A Study in American Strength." Robert Williams caught "the spirit of '63" with a wonderful rendition of "Gettysburg Address." Of course we can't forget "The Man with the Hoe," presented by your reporter.

Things were getting a little high-falutin', and a sense of humor was added by William Medina in "Gee, But I Want to Go Home"; and by George Pacharos, who presented us with "A Motor Romance."

This program was by far the best ever presented by our school since I have been here, and I certainly hope more of this kind will follow.

Mrs. Kurtz was in charge of the program. She helped in the selection of material and coached all of the contestants. Dr. Cunningham, Dr. Giannotta, and Mr. Witkowsky were the judges, and they unanimously voted Jones' presentation the best.

Richie will compete at Eli Whitney on May 9th in the semi-finals.

—George E. Moeckel, Jr., 8V27



On April 6, 1962, at approximately 3:15 P.M., the annual G. O. and Press Council Convention got started in the auditorium of William Howard Taft High School.

Greetings were given by Leonard Bass, G.O. President, William Howard Taft High School; Mrs. Hortense Levisohn, Principal, William Howard Taft High School; Garth Butty, President of the G.O. City Council; Jeff Katz, President of the High School Press Council; and Mr. Walter A. Wolff, Acting Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

The topic of an opening panel discussion was: "How Can the G.O. and the School Newspaper Best Work Together?"

The panel consisted of Dorothy Ginsberg, Vice President of the G.O. City Council; Neal Hurwitz, Editor of the Stuyvesant "Spectator"; Michael Hendle, Associate Board, Forest Hills "Beacon"; and Terry Tornek, delegate to the G. O. City Council. The moderator for the panel was Mr. Samuel Polathnick, High School Division of the Board of Education.

After this panel discussion, sessions were held in several classrooms. These sessions were concerned with general issues facing the G. O. and the school newspaper.

At 5:30 P.M. dinner was served in the cafeteria, and your reporter had the honor of being the first student in line.

After dinner a general discussion period was held in the auditorium.

The program ended with a dance in the gymnasium. The dance got started at 7:30 P.M.



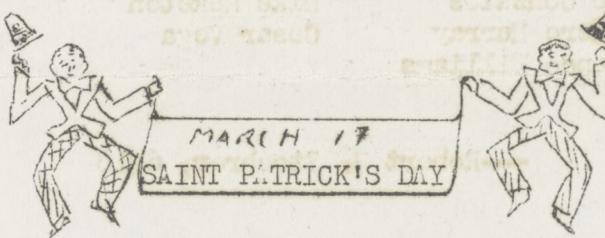
THE SPARK PLUG

"To further advance interest in school
and community"

Published seven times a year by
the students of Brooklyn High
School of Automotive Trades, 50
Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn 22, N. Y.
MR. LOUIS AUERBACH, Principal

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Harvey Meadows, Frank Gagliardi,
Joseph Grant, George Moeckel, Jr.
Cartoonists: Carmen Gaglio
Joseph Olfano
Harold Williams

Stencils: Mrs. Juanita M. Jordan
Faculty Adviser: Mr. John L. Perkins



Once again March 17 rolled around and once again New York City went all out to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day. Every Saint Patrick's Day parade is a mammoth affair in New York City, but the one this year was the biggest and best one yet. This year March 17 fell on a Saturday, and for the first time in years we had perfect weather. On hand were over 350 marching bands and just thousands and thousands of marchers.

The parade usually starts at 20th Street and travels up 5th Avenue to about 86th Street. The parade is always stately. However, sometimes things get a bit lively on the periphery and a few sons of Erin start their little private parades in some of the adjoining streets, after having had "a few too many." For it is no secret that the Irish really feast—in both food and drink—in honor of their patron saint.

Don't get the idea that all who turn out wearing the green are Irish. And don't get the idea that New York City is trying to rob Ireland of her patron saint. It just so happens that Saint Patrick is also the patron saint of the Archdiocese of New York City.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY (CONT'D)

Although people in Ireland perhaps marvel at times at the way we celebrate the occasion over here, we are certain that they do not begrudge us for it. And if they do we shall just remind them that Saint Patrick was born in Scotland, not in Ireland, and that "what's good for the goose is good for the gander."

'TWAS A GREAT DAY FOR THE IRISH—
ALL OF THEM



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ESSAY CONTEST

Every year the Chamber of Commerce of the City of New York sponsors an essay contest which is open to all high school students, public and parochial.

The topic of this year's contest was: "The United Nations—Best Hope for World Peace."

Prizes will be awarded to the four best essays in each grade.

Automotive boys who participated are listed below by grade:

9th Grade
Norman Grandstaff; Ildzislaw Zrebiec;
Robert Barbara

10th Grade
Frank Boppert; Michael Meketen;
Angelo DiPaolo; James Wilson;
Christopher Kading; Thomas Valot;
Edward Thompson

11th Grade
Alvin Boyde; Joseph Fodera; Juan Garcia; Dalbert Clarke; Peter Scolaro

12th Grade
Michael Creegan; William Cahill;
Rafael Chevres; Charles Kane;
William Martin; George Moeckel;
Alexander Lybrand; Herbert Marchand;
Siegfried Klammer; Richard Jensen

Winners will be notified around the end of May.

Dr. Cunningham, Chairman of the Academic Department, noted that the entries this year were more numerous than previously. He sees a good chance for a winner in this contest.

SPORTS ACTIVITIESBASEBALL TEAM

Coach D. Praver is pleased with his draft choice of rookies and sees a fine future for the team. He has even gone out on the limb and promised a winning team this season.

With Juan Torres, last year's pitching ace, and the return of Richard Phillips, the pitching staff is in fine shape. As for the outfield, all positions are being held down by the immortals Rigo, Mingalone, and Volpone—unless Mr. Praver discovers a Roger Maris hidden somewhere among the rookies. Behind the plate this year is Joe (Yogi) Fodera, an ace receiver. Catching is a rough and tough job and that's right down Joe's alley.

Mr. Praver's sole problem is in the infield. All of the infielders of last year's team graduated. Ray Hernandez has nailed down second base, but the other positions are question marks. Mr. Praver feels certain that he will have the infield problem licked by opening day, April 13.

MEMBERS OF THE TEAM

Robert Volpone, 8V24, Captain	
Richard Phillips, V24	Juan Torres, V24
Richard Rigo, V24	George Mingalone, V23
Ray Hernandez, V26	Joseph Fodera, V18
Johnny Ruiz, V16	Reynold Alberti, V19
Donald Maciejewski, V25	Actress Terry, V24
Charles Williams, V7	Victor Caraccio, V6
Pete Ortez, V8	Forrest Lewis, V9
Howard McAlmon, V9	Angel Nieves, V12
Alex Hernandez, V12	Mike Lish, V18
Dan Dannenberg, V19	Alfred Rosado, V20
James Fox, V2	Chris Santana, V20
Thomas Stanley, V22	John Chalmus, V11

MANAGERS

George Pericharos, V22
Genaro Bonilla, V16

—Robert Volpone, 8V24

HANDBALL TEAM READY FOR ACTION

Although our season has not yet officially opened, the handball team engaged Eli Whitney Vocational High School in an exhibition match at McCaren Park on Friday, March 23.

In singles competition, Theodore Murray won 21 to 6, and Lawrence Williams lost 21 to 19.

In doubles, Fred Carrion and Robert Stoehrer won 21 to 14.

All in all we had a good day, and we are looking forward to a winning season.

Coach Leccese is proud of his team.

MEMBERS OF HANDBALL TEAM

Roy Alexander	Dalbert Clarke
Robert Stoehrer	Fred Carrion
Steven Buttacavolli	Leon Cash
Mario Gonzales	Mike Meketen
Theodore Murray	Cesar Vega
Lawrence Williams	

—Robert H. Stoehrer, 6V18

THE SCIENCE PROJECTION SQUAD

The science projection squad is one of the most important squads in the school. The members work behind the scenes at assembly programs and also show films to different classes in Room 309.

Mr. Hiep is in charge of the projection squad, and boys interested in joining the squad should contact Mr. Hiep in Room 303 during the 7th period. It is not necessary to know how to operate the machines; Mr. Hiep will teach you.

The present members of the squad are:

James Wilson, 4V6; Almire Burns, 4V8; Henry Johnson, 4V9; Leon Harris, 4V9; Alex Hernandez, 4V12; Lloyd Doggette, 4V13; Ellis Hammond, 5V16; Eddie Bryant, 5V16; George Schmitt, 6V18; James Carman, 6V19; John Hoffler, 6V20; Larry Gadson, 6V20; Jose Figueroa, 6V21; Robert Pickering, 6V21; Danny Nieves, 6V22; Martin Wetterauer, 6V22; Robert Nenna, 7V23; Michael Creegan, 8V25.

Steven Beiderman, 8V25, Captain

SOMETHING TO LAUGH ABOUTSTRANGE TASTE

A guide, showing an old lady through the Zoo, took her to a cage occupied by a kangaroo.

"Here, madam," he said, "we have a native of Australia."

"Good gracious," she replied, "and to think my sister married one of them."

NO FOOLING?

Attendant—"Do you wish to consult Woosung Portung, the great Chinese mystic?"

Woman—"Yes, tell him his mother is here from the Bronx."

THAT'S TELLING HIM!

A census clerk, in scanning over the form to see if it had been filled out properly, noticed the figures 120 and 112 under the headings, "Age of Father, if living," and "Age of Mother, if living."

"But your parents were never so old, were they?" asked the astonished clerk.

"No," was the reply, "but they would have been, if living."

TELL IT TO THE MARINES!

"Yes," said the boastful young man, "my family can trace its ancestry back to William the Conqueror."

"I suppose," remarked his friend, "you'll be telling us that your ancestors were in the Ark with Noah?"

"Certainly not," said the other. "My people had a boat of their own."

BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE!

Missionary—"Why do you look at me so intently?"

Cannibal—"I am the food inspector here."

BLIND DATE!

He—"If you'll give me your telephone number I'll call you up sometime."

She—"It's in the book."

He—"Fine! What's your name?"

She—"That's in the book, too."

GIVE HIM HIS PAPERS!

Here are some of the questions and answers overheard at the Bureau of Naturalization:

"Where is Washington?"

"He's dead."

"I mean the Capital of the United States."

"Oh, they loaned it all to Europe."

"Do you promise to support the Constitution?"

"Me? How can I? I've a wife and six children to support."

INQUISITIVE?

"Who was that pretty little thing I saw you with last night?"

"Will you promise not to tell my wife?"

"Surely, I promise."

"Well, it was my wife."

THE VISIT

"Well, I must be going."

"Don't let me keep you if you really must be going," said the bored host.

"Yes, I really must go. But, I did enjoy our little visit. Do you know that when I came in here I had a headache, but now I have lost it entirely."

"Oh, it isn't lost," was the patient reply. "I've got it now."

THE HONEST CONFESSION

"Do you know what it is to go before an audience?"

"No. I spoke before an audience once, but most of it went before I did."

AN HONEST MISTAKE

A religious and charitable woman noticed a very down-and-out sort of man standing at the corner of the street near her residence.

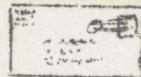
One morning she took compassion on him, pressed a dollar into his hand and whispered, "Never despair."

Next time she saw him he stopped her and handed her nine dollars.

"What does this mean?" she asked.

"It means, ma'am," said the man, "that 'Never Despair' won at 8 to 1."



*We**Get Letters!*VALUE OF "SPARK PLUG"

As most high school students know a school newspaper is both interesting and informative. Our school paper, which is called the "Spark Plug," is all of this and more. It gives the latest information on school sports, important holidays, book reviews, and much more.

Let's take book reviews for example. Our school newspaper takes a book which is read thoroughly by one of its staff and then summarized. If you find a book in our school newspaper you can be sure that it is a good piece of reading material.

Our paper also provides for entertainment by little jokes and comical drawings by the members of the staff.

We must take into consideration the factor that our school paper is sometimes late in its information, since it is published only a certain number of times a year, thereby making it impossible to make on-the-spot reports.

I am sure that the students of our school are highly satisfied with our school paper, and hope that the members of the staff and the faculty adviser in charge will keep up the good work.

—Richard Zaia, 8V27

1003 38 Street
Brooklyn 19, N. Y.
March 16, 1962

Sparkplug Magazine
50 Bedford Avenue
Brooklyn 22, N. Y.
Editor:

I am writing this letter in reference to one of our assembly programs I have seen this term. The program I am referring to was the Plymouth Trouble Shooting Contest, which was one of the most interesting I have seen at Automotive.

Programs such as these give us a better idea of what is in store for us on the outside and how much we must know. If more assembly programs were directed at our trade, it would provide more interesting and better assembly programs in the future.

Thank you for your kind and considerate co-operation.

Very truly yours,

James Freschi



THE U.N.—OUR BEST HOPE

The first General Assembly of the United Nations opened in London on January 10, 1945. This was the first step of the U.N. toward its contribution to world peace. The foundations of the U.N. were laid at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference in Washington, D. C., on August 21, 1944. The charter came into effect October 24, 1945, when signed by the five permanent members of the Security Council: China, France, Russia, England, and the United States of America.

The construction of the permanent headquarters on the east side of Manhattan was completed during 1952. As our title states, the U.N. is the only organization of its kind which brings the nations of the world together to discuss and ultimately solve the many problems of world affairs. In so doing, minor problems are solved before they become major catastrophes. The more serious conflicts which come to the attention of the U.N. are properly investigated and resolved to the satisfaction of those involved. Through this satisfactory procedure, the disturbances which arise between nations are solved peacefully.

The ability of the U.N. to adequately remedy world tensions is an indispensable requisite in achieving unity and peace throughout the world. We can only hope and pray that the nations of the world will continue to abide by the decisions of the United Nations in all matters which may be a danger to world peace.

Today there are 104 nations in the U.N., and we should hope that some day all nations will be a part of it.

—James Freschi, 8V24

PEN PALS FOR JAPAN

"Spark Plug" has received a very nice letter from the International Friendship Club, P.O. Box 5, Akabane, Tokyo, Japan.

Space does not permit us to reproduce the letter here, and we request our readers to consult the main bulletin board on the first floor.—ED.